

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 remain in this application. Claims 9, 10 and 17 have been amended. New claims 18 and 19 have been added.

1. § 102 Rejections

The Patent Office has rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Brishka (US 3,432,798). The Patent Office asserts that: regarding claim 1, Brishka, fig. 1, discloses a coaxial connector device comprising a first and a second connector section with longitudinal axes, the first section comprising a coaxially disposed first inner terminal 10 for releasable mechanical and electrical connection to a coaxially disposed second inner terminal 11 of the second connector section, characterized in that the first and second inner terminals are provided with mutually corresponding contact means 18, 19, 20, 22, 24 for the establishment of a releasable contact between the first and second inner terminals; regarding claim 2, Brishka discloses the contact means comprises a male end on the first inner terminal and a corresponding female end 20 on the second inner terminal; regarding claim 3, Brishka discloses the contact means comprises a female end 22 on the first inner terminal and a corresponding male end 11 on the second inner terminal; regarding claim 4, Brishka discloses the longitudinal axes extend at an angle (α) relative to each other; regarding claim 5, Brishka discloses the angle (α) is substantially 90 degrees; regarding claim 6, Brishka discloses the unitary body 27 is fixably attached to the shell 42 by an interlocking of a locking ridge 40 with a locking groove 31; regarding claim 7, Brishka discloses the unitary body is fixably attached to the shell by a screw thread screwed into a receiving spindle 35; regarding claim 8, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has at least one male end; regarding claim 9, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has at least one female end; regarding claim 10, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has at least one male end; regarding claim 11, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has at least one female end; regarding claim 12, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has a tapered male end; regarding claim 13, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has a gap for the accommodation of the lateral inner terminal; regarding claim 14, Brishka discloses the inner terminal has an integral perpendicular node; regarding claim 15, Brishka discloses the lateral inner terminal has a fingered node-receiving end; and, regarding claim 16, Brishka discloses that an O-ring 33 forms a moisture-proof seal between the unitary body and the shell.

The rejection is traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the central conductor 11 of Brishka is not an inner terminal of its connector, and indeed is not part of the connector at all. The central conductor 11 is part of the cable to which the connector is attached. See Brishka col. 1 lines 64-67. According to the Federal Circuit, "[u]nder 35 U.S.C. §102, anticipation requires that each and every element of the claimed invention be disclosed in a prior art reference." Hakim v. Cannon Avent Group PLC, 81 USPQ2d 1900, 1905, 479 F3d 1313, (Fed. Cir. 2007), quoting Akzo N.V. v. U.S. Int'l Trade Comm'n, 808 F.2d 1471, 1479, 1 USPQ2d 1241, (Fed. Cir. 1986). Applicant submits that Brishka does not teach, or even suggest, more than one inner terminal. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is patentable, and Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection and further consideration and allowance of the claims.

Applicant notes that there is no mention of Claim 17 in the Office Action. Applicant requests consideration and allowance of Claim 17, as well as new Claims 18 and 19, at least for the reasons stated above.

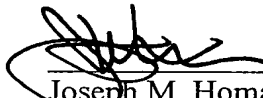
Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that a two (2) month extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely, but contingently request that the Office grant such further time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Joseph M. Homa at 607-974-9061.

Respectfully submitted,

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